

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Listing of Claims**

**Claims 1–13 (Canceled)**

**Claim 14 (Previously presented):** A decoding method for a signal having been encoded under use of a channel coding per transmission frame (314) having a plurality of compressed frame data (310, 311, 312, 313), including:

- a) bits of said plurality of compressed frame data (310, 311, 312, 313) grouped into a plurality of classes (320, 321, 322) according to the degree degradation in decoding quality in the presence of transmission errors;
- b) each of the plurality of classes (320, 321, 322) having been subjected to different channel coding processes under use of different error protection codes, the decoding method comprising the steps of:
  - performing different decoding for transmission frames in each of the plurality of classes (320, 321, 322) grouped in descending order of error protection,
  - ungrouping the plurality of compressed frame data (310, 311, 312, 313) from the plurality of classes (320, 321, 322), and
    - in each of the plurality of compressed frame data that is compressed by way of a sub-band ADPCM mode, halting the process of updating a scale factor during ADPCM decoding per sub-band in the presence of an unrecoverable transmission error in said audio compressed frame data.

**Claim 15 (Currently amended):** ~~Use of the~~<sup>The</sup> decoding method of claim 14, ~~on a~~  
~~coded signal~~ wherein the bits of said compressed frame data are grouped into at least three  
classes (320, 321, 322) involving first class (320), second class (321) of which the degree of  
degradation of the decoding quality is smaller than that of the first class and third class (322) of  
which the degree of degradation of the decoding quality is smaller than that of the second class  
(321), and

wherein first process “convolution coding and addition of CRC check codes” is  
performed for bits classified as the first class (320), second process “convolution coding only” is  
performed for bits classified as the second class (321), and third process “no coding” is  
performed for bits classified as the third class (322).

**Claim 16 (Canceled)**